

Massachusetts FY04 WHIP Ranking Criteria

Project Name: _____

County: _____

Habitat Improvement to be Achieved

- Restoration/management of an aquatic ecosystem, early successional habitat (i.e., grassland, old field, early woodland), freshwater wetland, riparian area, or salt marsh **10**
- Restoration/management of a beaver dominated wetland, mesic forest, xeric forest **5**
- Restoration/ management of a non-targeted habitat **1**

Likelihood of Successful Restoration

- Technically feasible and socially acceptable alternatives **10**
- Technical or social factors somewhat reduce chances for success **5**
- Severe technical or social limitations greatly reduce chances for successful restoration **1**

Location in Relation to Wildlife Habitat Priority Areas

- Project is within a Core Habitat Area (per MA BioMap) **10**
- Project is within a Supporting Natural Landscape (per MA BioMap) **5**
- Project is not within a Core Habitat Area or Supporting Natural Landscape **1**

Restoration of Native Plants - establishment, management or habitat manipulation in contract encourages:

- Native plant community **10**
- Non-native but wildlife friendly plant community **5**
- All other plant species **1**

Federal and State Listed Rare, Sensitive, Threatened and Endangered and Candidate Species

- Site contains a known species that will benefit by proposed practices **10**
- Site is within a mile of a known species that will benefit from proposed practices **5**
- Proposed practices will provide no known benefits to such species **1**

Estimated USDA Cost Per Acre (over life of contract)

- < \$1,500 per acre **10**
- \$1,500 - \$2,500 per acre **5**
- > \$2,500 per acre **1**

Operation and Maintenance Requirements

- Requires infrequent maintenance and management **10**
- Requires regular maintenance and management (i.e. every 2-3 yrs.) **5**
- Requires annual or more frequent maintenance and management **1**

Number of Partners (NGOs, special interest, state agencies, etc.)

- 3 or more **10**
- 1 to 2 **5**
- 0 partners **1**

Project Criteria

Habitat Type	Acres/Activity	Points
Grasslands	10+ acres	10
	5 to 10 acres	5
	0 to 5 acres	1
Old Fields / Early Woodlands	5+ acres	10
	2 to 5 acres	5
	0 to 2 acres	1
Tidal/Non-Tidal Wetlands	2+ acres	10
	1 to 2 acres	5
	0 to 1 acre	1
Riparian Areas	½+ acre	10
	¼ to ½ acre	5
	0 to ¼ acre	1
Mesic Forest	10+ acres	10
	5-10 acres	5
	0-5 acres	1
Xeric Forest	5+ acres	10
	2 to 5 acres	5
	0 to 2 acres	1
Instream Projects	Fish Passage Restoration	10
	Stormwater Treatment	5
	Other	1

Length of WHIP Contract

- Contract is 10 years in length **10**
- Contract is >5 years but < 10 years in length **5**
- Contract is 5 years in length **1**

Societal Benefits (education, open space, recreation, water quality)

- Project will provide major societal benefits (e.g., project lands part of recognized non-profit education facility; project will provide water quality protection for state 303(d) listed impaired waters) **10**
- Project will provide moderate societal benefits (e.g., projects lands open for public use; project will provide water quality protection for non-listed waters) **5**
- Project will provide minor societal benefits **1**

Total Points _____

(110 points possible)